

Agency Overview

The Idaho Commission on the Arts, established as a state agency by the Legislature in 1966, is charged by state law to (Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 56 Section 5605):

“stimulate and encourage throughout the state the study and presentation of the performing and fine arts, and public interest and participation therein...” The Commission must also “encourage and assist freedom of artistic expression essential to the well-being of the arts.”

The Commission, funded by the state of Idaho, the National Endowment for the Arts, and by private funds, is both a service organization with a professional staff offering technical assistance and training, and a funding organization providing financial assistance.

The Commission is governed by 13 commissioners appointed by the Governor for terms of four years from different ethnic, social, and geographical areas of the state. The primary role of a Commission Member is (1) to contribute to the defining of the agency’s mission and governing the fulfillment of that vision and mission, and (2) to carry out the functions of the office of a commissioner and/or committee member as stated in the enabling legislation and Administrative Rules. A Commission member focuses on the development of broad policies that govern the implementation of the long range plan and its goals and objectives. This role is separate and distinct from the role of the Executive Director, who determines the means of implementation.

The Commission has 11 FTE’s; the executive director, office manager (represents agency in the absence of the executive director), five program directors, and four administrative staff all located in Boise.

A short history of the Commission:

- 1965 Governor Smylie establishes the temporary Commission and was made permanent in 1966. The Board of Commissioners is established with a membership of twenty who serve six-year staggered terms (no member could be reappointed until one year after completion of the first term).
- 1966 Commission receives a \$25,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to survey the needs of the arts. The survey is published in September of 1967.
- 1969 Commission receives its first grant from the NEA for its programs in the amount of \$26,400. The Commission is reduced from twenty members to thirteen; terms set at two years.
- 1970 Commission receives its first state appropriation of \$10,000 and federal grant of \$36,300. The Commission also receives a \$2,500 for the first Poetry-in-the-Schools project, the forerunner to the current Arts in Education program.
- 1976 The state appropriation included one-half of the salary for the Arts in Education director. The other half is funded through a development grant from the NEA. For the first time, the Commission is able to administer the program directly. With the hiring of the first secretary, staff increased to four. The Commission is moved to the Alexander House on Third and State Streets where it stayed for twenty four years.
- 1978 Commission begins its first long-range plan and administers the CETA Arts Administration Training Program. Present Community Development program grows out of this effort.
- 1981 Commission’s Folk Arts program is established with joint funding from the State Legislature and the NEA.
- 1986 Commission receives its first General Fund appropriation for programs, \$15,000 for the Arts in Rural Towns program. In response to a funding challenge from the NEA, this funding is increased to \$50,000 in FY 1988.
- 1989 Legislature appropriates \$100,000 for the Cultural Facilities program.
- 1990 Legislature appropriates \$100,000 in one-time money for grants to organizations (later reduced to \$50,000 in on-going funds).
- 1992 First grants for services to underserved communities are awarded by the NEA. Idaho receives \$87,000 for two years.
- 1994 Commission is funded by the NEA to conduct an artist residency program for first-time juvenile offenders in Ada County. Over 300 youths participate in ten arts residencies. The results of this program are published for pilot programs in other parts of the state.
- 1995 Legislature approves and funds new program, School Connections, designed to expand performances and exhibitions to rural schools.

- 1996 NEA funding cut by 40%, resulting in a 21% cut of the Commission's partnership grant. Staff is reduced from 13.5 FTEs to 11.
- 1997 Legislature adds \$50,000 for youth-at-risk and local arts councils.
- 1999 Legislature appropriates \$50,000 in on-going funding for youth-at-risk programming.
- 2000 Executive Director is selected by search committee. Commission moves to new quarters in the Old Penitentiary Historic District.
- 2001 For the first time in several years, Commission presents statewide arts conference in Boise: *Arts Matter! Skills for School, Work, and Life*. Annual retreat is established for commissioners.
- 2002 Commission receives Challenge American grant for the NEA. New five year plan published.
- 2003 Arts in Education program revised and restructured to outcome-based initiatives with more effective evaluation.
- 2004 MERGE, a series of workshops and presentations in seven cities in Idaho was launched. Created two new grant categories: Accessing the Arts and Salary Assistance to Local Arts Councils.

Finally, it has been difficult to keep up with the population growth and the demand for services. The number of applications submitted for funding to the Commission has continued to increase over the last five years while funding levels have remained the same. Additional dollars are needed for individuals, arts organizations, and schools to expand the impact of the arts in Idaho.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

Title 67, Chapter 56

Administrative directs the day to day operations of the agency.

Grants and Awards

- QuickFund\$ are for serendipitous arts projects from \$500 to \$1,000 with a match of 1:1 (cash or in-kind). Organizations may apply for support funds for a specific project or activity.
- Cultural Facilities grants support feasibility studies, renovation, or construction of performance, exhibition, or artist spaces, and for capital purchases for those facilities. This category includes funds for public art projects. Grant funds must be matched 1:1 with an equal amount of cash.
- Project Grants for artistic fee support or project support involves and encourages a variety of quality arts activities in Idaho communities.
- General Operating Support (GOS) grants are available to two main constituencies based on a formula that includes the organization's annual operating budget. Grants are designed to stabilize the financial base of Idaho's arts organizations, assist them in long-range planning, and aid in expansion of current programs.
- Arts in Education Project Grants support activities that unite effective practices in education and in the arts, and that involve schools, artists, and community organizations. Creative Alternatives for Youth provide schools and organizations with resources and support for activities that strengthen the arts as a fundamental part of learning, includes youth-at-risk.
- Writer-in-Residence awards are the state's highest literary recognition. The writer shares his or her work with readings around the state. The Commission provides public information, and travel and schedule assistance, to the writer and the selected communities.
- Fellowships are awarded annually to individual artists in recognition of outstanding work and commitment to their art. Disciplines rotate every three years (Honorable Mentions may also be awarded).
- Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Awards support master-apprentice teams that practice the folk and traditional arts found in all Idaho communities so such art forms will thrive.

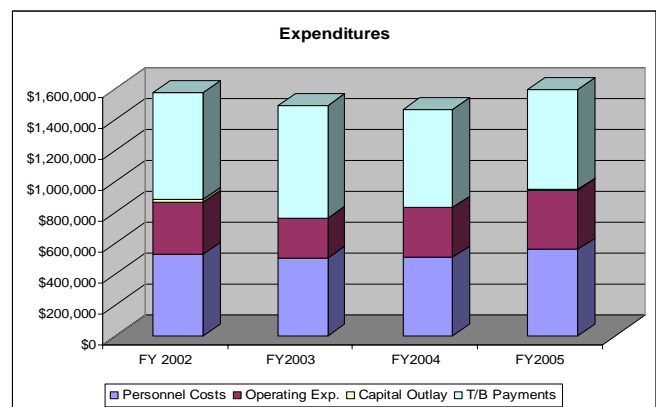
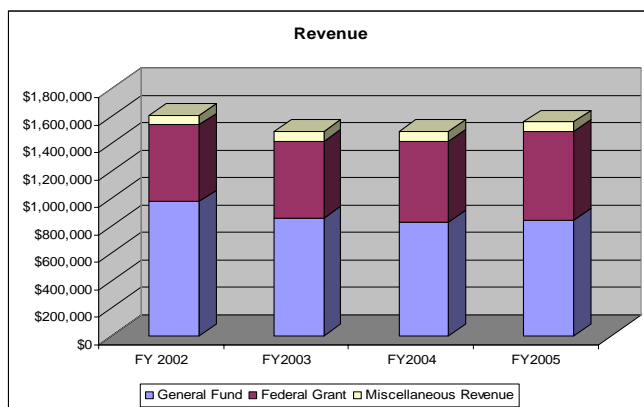
Programs and Services

- Memberships
 - Services to the Field
 - Publications/Outreach
 - Special Projects
- Governor's Arts Awards – Biennial due September/October 2006

Revenue and Expenditures:

Revenue	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
General Fund	\$976,700	\$854,800	\$827,600	\$838,800
Federal Grant	\$559,300	\$563,300	\$590,300	\$647,500
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$71,500	\$71,500	\$71,500	\$71,500
Total	\$1,607,500	\$1,489,600	\$1,489,400	\$1,557,800
Expenditure	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Personnel Costs	\$526,400	\$504,000	\$505,800	\$557,900
Operating Expenditures	\$336,100	\$257,300	\$323,500	\$386,700
Capital Outlay	\$23,400	\$0	\$0	\$700
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$687,500	\$732,300	\$634,100	\$651,400
Total	\$1,573,400	\$1,493,600	\$1,463,400	\$1,596,700

(Note: Revenue does not include noncogs and receipts to appropriation.)

**Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided**

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Grants organizations awarded	150	148	122	117
Grants individuals awarded	83	79	50	58
Workshops	8		42	38
Conferences attendees		250	608	400
Outreach – Latitudes mailed	3,620	3,085	3,126	3,158
Contracts for services – panels/projects	59	54	52	27

(Note: Grant writing workshops are being held in FY2006 for new guidelines due out November 2005. Grant-writing workshops were incorporated into the Statewide Arts Conference. Numbers do not reflect technical assistance provided by program directors one on one or on site.)

Performance Highlights:

Major accomplishments over the last five years;

- 1999** Commission partners with Boise State University in *"Idaho Skylights: Poetry on School Buses"* in five school districts.
- 2000** Commission receives a \$40,000 enhancement for Ballet Idaho's Millennium Tour to celebrate the best of the arts in Idaho, and brings the tour to all of Idaho's counties.
- 2001** For the first time in several years, Commission presents statewide arts conference in Boise: *Arts Matter! Skills for School, Work, and Life.*
- 2002** Commission holds twelve community meetings, surveyed via mail and internet to solicit constituent views around the state to gather input for new five year plan and adopts new five year plan.

Building Community Bridges, a grant program established in 2002, encourages Idaho arts organizations to develop specific partnerships between at least two arts organizations and community partners and artists in order to engage in collective learning, planning, and creation of joint arts projects.

Commission holds eight grant-writing workshops across the state.

- 2003** Arts Powered Schools *Making the Connections* - a six-day professional development opportunity devoted to improving basic arts skills and knowledge. First in continuing annual program in partnership with the Department of Education.

Commission sponsors second statewide conference: *Art Matters 2! Childhood, Livelihood, Neighborhood.* Dana Gioia, chair of the NEA is keynote speaker this is the first time in 30 years that the NEA chair visited Idaho. Dana Gioia, chair of the NEA participates in the dedication of the new Hispanic Cultural Center in Nampa, Idaho

- 2004** The Commission is moved from the Secretary of State to the Governor's Office

The Commission welcomes Dana Gioia's premiere of his new operetta "Noferatu" performed at the Velma Morrison Performing Arts Center

- 2005** **The Commission launched it new website in February**

The Arts Education Program has worked with a consultant, Dr. Michael Sikes, to develop a reporting process that draws on the revised outcomes based granting approach encouraging needs-based programming and a continuous process for tracking results to ensure outcomes are being achieved. Final reports in the FY05 cycle are currently being reviewed and will appear on the ICA website as Evidence of Learning.

"Discovering Cultural Expressions" A Field School for Cultural Documentation provided training on cultural dumentation to 20 Idahoans in 10 rural and urban communities in five of Idaho's geographical regions. Training prepared attendees to assist the Folk & Traditional Arts program in the discovery and documentation of living cultural expressions in their communities. Three of these new community scholars have assited folklorists in the I ACT survey of the Treasure Valley.

Over the last five years, the TumbleWords program has taken recognized Idaho writers to several dozen rural Idaho towns for workshops and readings open to the public. Often enough, they represent the first such opportunity for local residents with literary aspirations.

21st Century Arts for 21st Audiences brought together members of the media community into a round-table gathering to conduct an assessment of our current support to media artists and to discover how we can better service that constituency.

For the first time hosted the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) conference in Boise. Executive Director elected as President of the Board of Directors of NASAA. Commission chair is appointed and confirmed to the National Council on the Arts.

For More Information Contact

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